

Consumer Fact Sheet

Nebraska Department of Labor 402-471-9000

www.nebraskaworkforce.com



EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (EUC)

UNDER AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

On February 17, 2009, President Barack Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, commonly called the Federal Stimulus Plan. The new law provides for the extension of the filing date for Emergency Unemployment Compensation, 2008 (EUC08) for individuals who claim unemployment compensation benefits prior to December 31, 2009. This fact sheet provides a description of EUC08 and the Program Extension under ARRA.

Emergency Unemployment Compensation, 2008 (EUC08) — Program Extension

- The EUC08 program, created on June 30, 2008, provides up to 20 weeks of federally-funded benefits to eligible unemployed workers who have collected all their regular state unemployment benefits. An additional 13 weeks of EUC are available in states with high levels of unemployment.
- The EUC08 program was scheduled to expire on Aug. 27, 2009. The recovery legislation, Public Law Number 111-5, which was enacted on Feb. 17, 2009, extends the expiration date of the EUC08 program to May 31, 2010.
- The period during which an individual may establish eligibility for EUC08 is extended from March 31, 2009, to the week of unemployment ending on or before Dec. 31, 2009, and the "phase-out" or expiration date of the program is extended from Aug. 27, 2009 to May 31, 2010.
- The recovery legislation does not provide additional weeks of benefits for individuals who have or will exhaust their EUC08 benefits.

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

What is the federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC08) Program?

EUC08 is a federally-funded program which provides extended unemployment insurance benefits in all states to unemployed individuals who have already collected all regular state benefits or have exhausted benefit claims and meet the federal eligibility guidelines.

Who is potentially eligible?

You are considered potentially eligible for the EUC program if you have a Nebraska unemployment claim, and:

- You filed an unemployment claim effective May 7, 2006, or later
- You are fully unemployed, or partially unemployed and working part-time, as of July 6, 2008
- You have no rights to unemployment benefits from any other state, the federal government or Canada
- You are legally authorized to work in the United States
- You are able and available for and seeking employment

When does the EUC program begin and end?

The program began July 6, 2008 and expires on December 31, 2009, with a phase-out period through May 31, 2010.

I am currently collecting unemployment benefits. Will I be eligible to apply for these additional benefits if I exhaust my 26 weeks and I still am not working full time?

If you have not found employment while collecting state unemployment compensation, you will automatically be mailed instructions on how to file for the 20 weeks of extended benefits. Upon receiving your instructions, you must call the Nebraska Claims Center at 402-458-2500 to file for EUC. TDD/TYY users can call 402-477-0016.

What information do I need to file a claim?

You will need your social security number and your PIN. You will need to provide information regarding any employment you have had since you last filed for benefits. If you are not a U.S. citizen, you will need to provide your alien registration number.

How do I file my weekly claim once my eligibility has been established?

Individuals will be able to file weekly claims by using the automated phone system or online at www.nebraskaworkforce.com in the same manner weekly claims for regular benefits are filed.

If I quality for EUC, how much can I collect weekly?

Your weekly benefit amount for the extension program will be the same as your weekly benefit amount.

How will I receive my payment?

Payments are made in the same manner as your regular weekly benefit amount, either by debit card or direct deposit to your bank account, depending on which option you have selected.

What could disqualify me from EUC or delay, stop or reduce my benefits?

You may be disqualified for quitting a job or being discharged from a job. The reason for job separation will be examined and could affect your eligibility for extended benefits.

Other situations that could cause a change in your eligibility may be found in the "Nebraska Unemployment Insurance Claimants Handbook" you received when you first filed for benefits, or it can be accessed from our Internet site at www.nebraskaworkforce.com.

If I disagree with a determination that I am not eligible to receive extended benefits, what can I do?

You may file an appeal. Instructions on how to file an appeal are located within determination notification letter and available online at www.nebraskaworkforce.com.

Are Nebraska employers being charged for EUC program payments?

No. The EUC program is federally funded.

Are extended unemployment benefits taxable?

Yes. You must report all unemployment insurance on your income taxes, as reported to you on the Form UC-1099G.

If I have already filed a claim for EUC and need additional assistance, whom should I contact?

You may contact the Nebraska Claims Center, Monday – Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM at 402-458-2500.